AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-139. (Canceled)

140. (New) Apparatus for treating a fracture of a bone of a subject, comprising:

an intramedullary (IM) nail, adapted to be inserted in a medullary canal of the bone of the subject, and comprising a proximal head that defines at least one hole therethrough, the intramedullary nail having a locking surface shaped to define an indent; and

a sleeve, comprising a locking mechanism, which locking mechanism is adapted to engage the indent of the locking surface of the intramedullary nail when the sleeve is inserted in the hole, such engagement preventing rotational movement between the sleeve and the nail and preventing both inward and outward longitudinal movement between the sleeve and the nail.

141. (New) Apparatus according to claim 140, comprising a screw, wherein the sleeve is adapted to slidably receive the screw.

142. (New) Apparatus according to claim 140, wherein the locking mechanism comprises a depressible male coupling element, configured to engage the indent so as to prevent the rotational and longitudinal movement.

143. (New) Apparatus according to claim 142, wherein the male coupling element comprises a tab.

144. (New) Apparatus according to claim 142, wherein the depressible male coupling element is adapted to engage the indent when the sleeve is inserted in the hole to a fixed depth and then rotated until the depressible male coupling element engages the indent.

145. (New) Apparatus according to claim 142, wherein the depressible male coupling element comprises a depressible tongue.

146. (New) Apparatus according to claim 145, wherein the depressible tongue includes a projection on an outer surface thereof which engages the indent of the locking surface of the intramedullary nail.

147. (New) Apparatus according to claim 140, wherein the proximal head has a distal portion and a proximal portion, the proximal portion visually discrete from the distal portion, the proximal portion adapted to aid in locating the IM nail, and the distal portion adapted to be coupled to at least one element.

148. (New) Apparatus according to claim 147, wherein the distal portion is adapted to be coupled to the at least one element, the at least one element being selected from the list consisting of: a nail, a screw, a pin, and a sleeve.

149. (New) Apparatus according to claim 140, wherein the proximal head has a distal portion and a proximal portion, the distal portion having a distal diameter, and the proximal portion having a proximal diameter less than or equal to about 80% of the distal diameter.

150. (New) Apparatus according to claim 149, wherein the proximal diameter is less than or equal to about 50% of the distal diameter.

151. (New) Apparatus according to claim 149, wherein the proximal diameter is equal to between about 5 mm and about 10 mm and the distal diameter is equal to between about 11 mm and about 17 mm.

152. (New) Apparatus according to claim 149, wherein a length of the proximal portion is equal to between about 10% and about 50% of a length of the distal portion.

153. (New) Apparatus according to claim 149, wherein the proximal portion of the head is removable from the distal portion of the head.

154. (New) Apparatus according to claim 140, wherein the locking mechanism is

integral with the sleeve.

155. (New) Apparatus for treating a fracture of a bone of a subject, comprising:

an intramedullary (IM) nail, adapted to be inserted in a medullary canal of the bone of the subject, and comprising a proximal head that defines at least one hole therethrough, the intramedullary nail having a locking surface shaped to define an indent; and

a sleeve, comprising a locking mechanism which is integral with the sleeve, which locking mechanism is adapted to engage the indent of the locking surface of the intramedullary nail when the sleeve is inserted in the hole, such engagement preventing rotational and longitudinal movement between the sleeve and the nail.